

Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Board

Minutes of the May 13, 2003 meeting

Lovettsville Room, 1st Floor

Loudoun County Government Center, Leesburg, VA

Members Present: Chairman Helen Casey, Bill Hudspeth, Ben Lawrence, Fred McIntosh
Members Absent: Steven Combs-Lafleur, Kurt Erickson, Joan Rokus (Vice Chairman), and Michael D. Sawyer, Advisor
County Staff Present: Mark Novak, Park Planner, Parks, Recreation and Community Services, (PRCS), Janet Klein, Recording Secretary, PRCS

Chairman Helen Casey called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. The Chairman asked for a motion to accept the minutes of March 18. Ben Lawrence so moved. Bill Hudspeth seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting. Helen announced that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 15 at 1:00 p.m. in the 1st floor Conference Room in the new Lansdowne community center, The Potomac Club at Lansdowne, 43465 Riverpoint Drive. At that meeting, either Hobie Mitchell, Steve Hahn or both will give us a tour of the new facility. Tony Dawood of the Loudoun County Sanitation Authority will also be a speaker at the meeting. Helen commented that she is very impressed by the work done in refurbishing the former barn.

Directions from Leesburg: Turn Left onto Belmont Ridge Road. Go past Riverside Parkway. Take the next Right onto Riverpoint Drive. Proceed until you see the barn.
Chairman's Comments

Helen introduced David Thomas, a resident of Leisure World who is very interested in what this Board is doing.

Helen spoke briefly about the proposed kayak launch. She feels that it may be necessary to go through a portion of the earthen wall of one of the old canals or build a sort of bridge in order to provide easy and safe access at the put in and take out spot. This spot is north of the rapids and is somewhat protected from the rush of the water so it is the best spot for access. The next place to take out is Algonkian Park.

Helen announced that in everyone's packet, they would find several pieces of correspondence. One letter is from the lawyers representing the current owner of the former Harriman tract. This letter was in response to Helen's letter introducing herself and the Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Board and its concerns. The owner has publicly stated that she is environmentally friendly and is interested in meeting with Helen.

Members received a copy of this Board's Annual Report with their minutes of the March meeting. That report has been filed in Richmond.

Re-appointment of Board Members to Committee Ben Lawrence stated that he does have several names to suggest for membership on this new Committee but will present them to Helen at a future time. Helen asked each board member present in turn whether they desire to stay involved with this group by serving on this new Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee. All

members present expressed their wish to be appointed to the Committee. Bill Hudspeth agreed to serve as the official Secretary. Helen said that she welcomed the opportunity to have someone new head this Committee but no one present expressed an interest. She will check with the absent board members.

Helen distributed copies of the new law and asked members to read it over in their leisure. This legislation abolished all the scenic river advisory boards in the state (only 4 of the 19 were active). The four active boards will be re-instated as committees of one state scenic river advisory board which will be made up of people from all over the state. Helen went to Richmond to testify when this legislation was before the House.

By-Laws The law states that there should be seven (7) members of the Board. The new law gives no guidance beyond not less than three members. She wants help from board members to go through the By-Laws and bring them in line with the mandates of the new law. Bill Hudspeth and Fred McIntosh agreed to work with her on this project. She sent an email copy of the By-Laws to Mr. Maroon but hasn't heard back from him.

Fred McIntosh asked if committee members will be required to disclose personal spending information in a financial statement. Helen thought so but said it would not be any big deal. Fred wanted to make sure that committee members won't be subject to political solicitations.

Helen spoke briefly about her gratitude to the County Board of Supervisors for their cooperation in getting a letter written to the state in support of retaining this group as an advisory committee. Helen worked quite closely with Memory Porter in drafting the letter. Helen plans to publicly thank the Board of Supervisors at their July meeting. She stated that every time she has gone to the BOS with a GCSRAB concern, they have listened.

Helen asked Mark Novak, who had arrived at the meeting late, for an update on the Trail. Mark still wants to get a look at the kayak launch. He plans to call Steve Hahn soon to set up a time to tour the proposed launch site. David Thomas stated that he would like to accompany them. Helen also would like to be there.

Mark announced that the Greg Norman Golf Course just received approval to begin their clearing and grading work. Part of the course will lie within the 300 ft. setback.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Guests Present: Dennis Humenik, former Chair of GCSRAB
Julia Claypool, NVRPA
David Thomas, Interested Citizen

Respectfully submitted,
Janet G. Klein